

GREEN COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

USDA Service Center
1627 4th Avenue West
Monroe, Wisconsin

Thursday, September 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Oscar Olson, Jeff Williams, Erica Roth, Kristi Leonard, Dudley Timm, Tonya Gratz, Tyler Newcomer, Chris Newberry, Jason Thomas, Teresa Zimmer, Todd Jenson, and members of the public.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved on a motion by Roth, second by Williams. Motion carried.

The committee audited the monthly bills in the amount of \$5320.35. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Zimmer informed the committee that fall certification is underway for hay and grasses until November 15. The MPP payment is \$1.29/cwt for July. There have been 737 payments issued. The Market Facilitation Program is underway.

Thomas informed the committee that five EQIP projects were paid out this month.

Gratz informed the committee she is working on CRP reenrolls. Monroe Parkside, Monticello, and New Glarus will participate in youth conservation day on October 5. She is working on a grant for Farmers of the Sugar River.

Newberry informed the committee he has sent out well letters to those that need to be properly abandoned. There is an issue with one of the well drillers not getting paperwork turned in timely. He has been performing stream monitoring. On September 19, there will be a Pecatonica Pride field day at Steve and Kelly Hermanson's farm.

Newcomer informed the committee he has been field checking cover crops. He has been changing the seeding rates in some of the plans that have been written.

Newcomer and Gratz demonstrated a corn plant with tar spot. This disease shows a concern on standability, but are not sure on yield. It likes cool temperatures, with high humidity. There were 27 participants at the combine cleaning clinic. Palmer and waterhemp were discussed at length at the field day.

The committee discussed a multi discharge variance agreement with Grande. After much discussion and questions, a motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to table this item until next month. Motion carried.

Jenson went through the 2019 budget with the committee. A motion was made by Leonard, second by Roth to approve the budget and send it on to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

The committee reviewed recommendations #3, 7, 4, 6, and 8 from the Green County Livestock Facility Study Group Report and Recommendations. Please refer to that document, pages 25, 26, 27, and 30 for a full description of those recommendations.

Item 3: Possibly map poor well reports to decide where to focus conservation work. Do not require testing every 15 months. More outreach and awareness is needed to have land and property owners to test their wells.

Item 7: At whose expense is this recommendation? The committee doesn't disagree with the recommendation, but it would be up to the individual with the problem to pay for the testing.

Item 4: This recommendation is OK.

Item 6: Table this recommendation until the Zoning Committee acts on it.

Item 8: This recommendation would include all wells in Green County, including cities, villages, and center pivots. This is a good idea, but what is the well threshold?

In committee concerns, a question was asked of why Pinnacle Dairy has not yet seeded the backslopes of the manure pits.

In public comments, a question was asked of what are the water levels at Pinnacle Dairy? Well testing in New Glarus township were discussed along with a review of the recommendations of the Livestock Facility Study Group Report.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2018, beginning at 9:30 AM at the USDA Service Center.

A motion was made by Timm, second by Williams to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.